



## King County

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# King County Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

**Day/Date:** Monday, February 25, 2008  
**Time:** 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Safeco Office Center  
306 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South  
Seattle, WA

**ICC Members Present:** Margi Siegel, DDD, Betsy McAlister, KCPC, Donna Borgford Parnell, PHSKC-CSHCN, Cheryl Buette-meier, Boyer, Susan Sandall, University of Washington, Sandy Duncan, Lead FRC, Mary Ellen Martone, HSDC, Adrienne Fatur, CCR, Magan Cromar, Encompass, Elizabeth Campbell, Kent SD, Victor Place, Highline Mental Health, Kari Tanta, Valley Medical Center, Dawn Williams, Head Start

**Guests:** Harla Tumbleson, SOAR, Rhonda Harris, Arc of King County, Sandy Carlson, Dynamic-SKIP, Dr. Kathy Tekolste, University of Washington, Laura Brosas, CCR, Robert Clayton, Parent, Emily Mooney, Wonderland, Rebecca Smith, NWC

\*Listed above are individuals who signed the roster

**KCDDD Staff Present:** Leilani Dela Cruz, Jan Wrathall

### Presentation by Betsy McAlister

Parent of a child now 9; went through EEU program; talked about experience with legislative advocacy.

Why advocate?

- decisions are going to be made regardless so it's important for parents and professionals to be at the table together
- may not always be on the same side but it's important to work together

- a lot of families may not need special education but they need supports and services throughout their lives; it's important to let families know that they have choices
- different set of skills to advocate with school vs. legislator

### **HANDOUT: ABCs of Advocacy**

- Recent example of school closing and community not knowing which community entity to advocate for.
- Know who your legislators are; page 4 of the handout; other handouts of current king county legislators
- Resources
- Whether you believe it or not, legislators do want to hear from you; rarely do they not take time out for parents and constituents; really important to write, email, phone call if you can't make it in person.
- Go to events that are comfortable for you i.e. Children's Alliance
- Having issues is fine but you need to take action if you want change (Action)
- Believe in yourself – I feel it is my right as a parent to tell my story
- Communication – need to be clear
- Always make sure you communicate what you want; “will you help me? Will you take action on my issue?”
- Get involved! In whatever you way you are comfortable
- Get involved with other parents; Parent Coalition
- Annual legislator's forum

### **Legislative Update**

- Yellow handout
- Still Alive:
  - Behavior Supports – based on Oregon model to provide supports to families with children with severe behaviors; in order to prevent children from going into Fircrest
  - DD land trust bill – take some parcels at Fircrest and put them into land trust account; fund community programs
  - Disability History month
  - IEPs for autism
- Infant Toddler Equity Act died in House rules committee but strategy now is to ask Senate for 1.1 million; if this strategy works, they will try again next year with same bill with a smaller fiscal note

If you have any questions or concerns please email or call Betsy McAlister at Parent Coalition.

### **Announcements/Updates**

- Magan pregnant and will take time off in August
- Dena undergoing chemotherapy but will be back soon part-time and will job share with Bobbie Miller who is an experienced deaf educator and will be an FRC with Dena

- o Victor and Highline West Seattle Mental Health to sponsor a training around DC0-3; half day general training and the other half day more intensive around
- o New director at the Arc, Sylvia Fuerstenberg

### **New Member Nominations**

Victor Place – licensed marriage and family therapist; working with kids and families for last 25 years; King county Sexual Assault Center; Highline West Seattle Mental Health last 17 years; in the last 4 years connected with UW infant mental health program and started with the idea of building an infant mental health program at Highline; worked closely with King County to remove barriers to billing Medicaid in order to provide infant mental health services; recently brought Circle of Security training to Seattle; wife has been connected to early childhood/early intervention arena for a long time including Childhaven most recently. Victor interested in being a part of this group because he is interested in providing bridges between Mental Health, Education, and Social Services.

Elizabeth moved to nominate; Sandy Duncan seconds; motion carried, voted and approved

### **Sandy Carlson (SKIP)**

Presentation on Primary Coach Approach and SKIP's transition to their new model.

Challenges include community based opportunities for families and reducing isolation for families. Will be facing this challenge this year.

Did not lose staff over transition.

Choice for families – families can choose to participate in the public system or not. Participation in public system mandates natural environments.

Definition of community based setting at last SICC meeting.

Wonderland, NWC and Encompass also participated in similar transition. Emily indicated that it was like looking in a mirror as far as their own journey and it has made a huge positive impact on their staff. It has afforded them more opportunities to be a part of their community i.e. Play and Learn Network.

Elizabeth: any impact on the transition to the school district? Magan said they are having their transition meetings in the home. And one of their school districts has moved toward evaluation in the homes.

Emily and Sandy: this is a good time to continue to have this discussion with the school districts.

### **Harla and Dr. Sells' report**

Jill will be at the next KCICC meeting to address the report. Harla wants guidance today from this group to focus the work of SOAR relative to this report. SOAR is the

Prevention/Early Intervention committee of the KCICC. The goal is to lower the age of referral and one of the strategies is better access between the medical community and the EI system.

- P/EI action committee has reviewed the recommendations and was interested in moving forward with education of the medical community around the early intervention system.
- Also wanted to work on improved communication between medical community and EI system around what happens to kids once they make the referral and families enter the system
- SOAR is highly interested in working on system issues specifically around Dr. Sells' report recommendation of seeing EI in the broader context of early learning and medical home system.

**Discussion:**

Elizabeth – data collection is critical piece and making data-driven decisions.

Standardizing and simplifying is a good theme to continue to guide our practice.

Rhonda – other cultures/other languages and ensuring broader outreach.

Kerry – want to ensure that good systems are not being displaced i.e. private systems

that work with kids who wouldn't ordinarily qualify for Part C. For example, kids who

have feeding issues, the NICU and VMC are well versed in how to refer to correct

programs. We don't want to confuse the medical community further when there are

other good systems in place. They (VMC) as a public hospital do give information about

Part C to families but are unsure of other private providers.

Betsy – standardized forms needed in order to reduce the confusion for families and medical providers.

Sandy D. – she gets a sense that providers are communicating with doctors and is surprised at the information in the report.

Sandy C. – docs may not hear from the providers if a family doesn't connect.

Dr. Kathy T. – docs do want to know if a family doesn't connect so they can re-initiate

the referral. Docs often only want the one page summary versus the full IFSP because

it is so complex; need to plan for next steps because docs don't like to refer to a black

hole or if the families don't get services at all because of capacity issues; Medical Home

team has limited outreach anyway and it is preaching to the choir; developmental

screening is not happening as often we would like; docs don't get reimbursed for

developmental screenings. Medical home project has broader outreach via Child

Health Notes and there can be as far reaching as needed. Learning Collaboratives are

another approach but that also reaches a specific pocket of docs.

Emily – acknowledging school district involvement particularly with eligibility for transition purposes.

Mary – checklist so that everyone has a similar process i.e. a standardized list of feedback to the medical community.

Betsy – would like to see families included in the engagement piece of school district and medical community.

Rhonda – families need to understand how to communicate with their doctor.

Magan – need to reiterate the piece of looking at what everyone is doing and standardizing across systems. Need to standardize what we're handing out to docs. If some of the info is standardized and then being able to individualize.

Cheryl – would like more info around how to educate docs; and also need to plan for influx of referrals as a parallel process.

Would like to continue to invite Jill for the next KCICC. Jan indicated that we would like to prepare some questions for Jill so that we can maximize her time while she's here.